



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

HIRA

Serial No.:

09/688,876

Filed:

October 17, 2000

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Group:

2873

Examiner:

T. Thompson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

October 4, 2002

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and copies of the documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted after the mailing of a Notice of Allowance, but before the payment of the issue fee, with the following certification specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) and accompanied with the petition fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) in the amount of \$130.00.

On information and belief, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not than more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

To the extent that, the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449, are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language abstract.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.39179X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Melvin Kraus

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